

Message Text

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10

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /089 W

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P 080904Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5891

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1729

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: KOREAN ISSUE AT COLOMBO NAC

REF: (A) COLOMBO 847, (B) COLOMBO 617

WHILE WE READILY UNDERSTAND DIFFICULTIES WOULD BE ENTAILED IN ATTEMPTING HEAD-OFF NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN COLOMBO BEFORE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE (PARA 6, REF A), BELIEVE SUCH AN EFFORT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. ROK MOFA OFFICIALS BELIEVE AND WE TEND TO AGREE THAT NORTH KOREANS ATTACH SUBSTANTIAL IMPORTANCE TO FACT THAT ROK HAS TRADE OFFICE IN SRI LANKA WHICH FLIES ROK FLAG, WHILE DPRK HAS NO COMPARABLE OFFICIAL PRESENCE. MOFA BELIEVES KIM IL-SONG WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND COLOMBO NAC BUT WOULD BE INHIBITED FROM DOING SO IF ROK FLAG WERE FLYING THERE WHILE DPRK FLAG WAS NOT. SEEMS LIKELY THAT IF KIM IL-SONG WERE TO ATTEND COLOMBO NAC, CHANCES FOR RESOLUTION UNACCEPTABLE TO U.S. INTERESTS AND CONSEQUENT MOMENTUM DPRK WOULD GAIN FOR ITS PROBABLE EFFORTS AT 31ST UNGA WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED. THEREFORE WHILE WE NOT IN POSITION MAKE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS RECOMMEND WE CONSIDER WAYS TO THWART THIS NORTH KOREAN MOVE TO ESTABLISH PARITY WITH SOUTH KOREANS IN COLOMBO, AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER NAC.

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SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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